Amendment dated September 2, 2005 Reply to Office Action of June 2, 2005

## Amendments to the Claims:

- 1. (Currently amended) A cosmetic or dermatological preparation comprising a content of an active ingredient combination, wherein the active ingredient comprises <u>0.01 to 15</u> wt%, based on the total weight of the preparation, of at least one compound selected from the group consisting of creatinine and derivatives thereof in combination with <u>0.01 to 15</u> wt%, based on the total weight of the preparation, of at least one compound selected from the group consisting of creatine, creatine salts, and creatine esters.
- 2. (Previously presented) The cosmetic or dermatological preparation as claimed in claim 1, wherein the active ingredient combination is present in an amount effective for the prophylaxis or treatment of an inflammatory skin condition or for the protection of sensitive or dry skin.
- 3. (Previously presented) The cosmetic or dermatological preparation as claimed in claim 1, wherein the active ingredient combination is present in an amount effective for the prophylaxis or treatment of the symptoms of intrinsic or extrinsic skin aging or of the harmful effects of ultraviolet radiation on the skin.
- 4. (Previously presented) The cosmetic or dermatological preparation as claimed in claim 1, wherein the active ingredient combination is present in an amount effective for the treatment or prophylaxis of environmentally induced negative alterations of the skin or skin appendages.
- 5. (Previously presented) The cosmetic or dermatological preparation as claimed in claim 1, wherein the active ingredient combination is present in an amount effective for the treatment or prophylaxis of pigmentation disorders.

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- 6. (Previously presented) The cosmetic or dermatological preparation as claimed in claim 1, wherein the active ingredient combination is present in an amount effective for the treatment or prophylaxis of functional disorders of skin appendages.
- 7. (Previously presented) The cosmetic or dermatological preparation as claimed in claim 1, wherein the active ingredient combination is present in an amount effective for the enhancement of hair growth.
- 8. (Previously presented) The cosmetic or dermatological preparation as claimed in claim 1, wherein the active ingredient combination is present in an amount effective for increasing ceramide biosynthesis.
- 9. (Previously presented) The cosmetic or dermatological preparation as claimed in claim 1, wherein the active ingredient combination is present in an amount effective for strengthening the barrier function of the skin.
- 10. (Previously presented) The cosmetic or dematological preparation as claimed in claim 1, wherein the active ingredient combination is present in an amount effective for the treatment or prophylaxis of disorders of the normal skin pH and of the osmolyte balance.
- 11. (Previously presented) The cosmetic or dermatological preparation as claimed in claim 1, wherein the active ingredient combination is present in an amount effective for the treatment or prophylaxis of deviations from the normal cell-cell communication in the skin.
- 12. (Original) The cosmetic or dermutological preparation as claimed in claim 1, wherein the at least one compound selected from the group consisting of creatinine and derivatives thereof is present in an amount from 0.1 to 10 wt%, based on the total weight of the preparation.

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13. (Previously presented) The cosmetic or dermatological preparation as claimed in claim 12, wherein the at least one compound selected from the group consisting of creatine, creatine salts, and creatine esters is present in an amount from 0.1 to 10 wt%, based on the total weight of the preparation.

## 14. (Cancelled)

- 15. (Previously presented) The cosmetic or dermatological preparation as claimed in claim 1, wherein the at least one compound selected from the group consisting of creatinine and derivatives thereof is present in an amount from 0.1 to 1 wt%, based on the total weight of the preparation.
- 16. (Previously presented) The cosmetic or dermatological preparation as claimed in claim 1, wherein the weight ratio of the at least one compound selected from the group consisting of creatinine and derivatives thereof to the at least one compound selected from the group consisting of creatine, creatine salts, and creatine esters is from 1:2 to 2:1.
- 17. (Previously presented) The cosmetic or dermatological preparation as claimed in claim 1, wherein creatine salts are present and are selected from the group consisting of creatine phosphate, creatine sulfate, creatine acetate, and creatine ascorbate.
- 18. (Previously presented) The cosmetic or dermatological preparation as claimed in claim 1, wherein the at least one compound selected from the group consisting of creatine, creatine salts, and creatine esters comprises creatine phosphate.

## 19-33. (Cancelled)

34. (Previously presented) The cosmetic or dermatological preparation as claimed in claim 1, wherein the at least one compound selected from the group consisting of creatine,

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creatine salts, and creatine esters is present in an amount from 0.1 to 3 wt%, based on the total weight of the preparation.

- 35. (Previously presented) The cosmetic or dermatological preparation as claimed in claim 1, wherein creatine esters are present and are selected from the group consisting of esters of creatine with mono- or polyfunctional alcohols.
- 36. (Currently amended) A cosmetic or dermatological preparation comprising a content of an active ingredient combination, wherein the active ingredient comprises 0.01 to 15 wt%, based on the total weight of the preparation, of creatinine in combination with 0.01 to 15 wt%, based on the total weight of the preparation, of at least one compound selected from the group consisting of creatine, creatine salts, and creatine esters.
- 37. (Previously presented) The cosmetic or demutological preparation as claimed in claim 36, wherein the active ingredient comprises creatinine in combination with creatine.
- 38. (Previously presented) The cosmetic or dermatological preparation as claimed in claim 36, wherein the active ingredient comprises creatinine in combination with creatine phosphate.
- 39. (New) The cosmetic or dermatological preparation as claimed in claim 1, wherein the preparation is in a form selected from the group consisting of solutions, water-in-oil (W/O) emulsions, oil-in-water (O/W) emulsions, water-in-oil-in-water (W/O/W) emulsions, oil-in-water-in-oil (O/W/O) emulsions, hydrodispersions, lipodispersions, gels, solid sticks, and aerosols.
- 40. (New) The cosmetic or dermatological preparation as claimed in claim 1, wherein the preparation is in the form of an emulsion selected from the group consisting of creams, lotions, and cosmetic milks.

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- 41. (New) The cosmetic or dermatological preparation as claimed in claim 1, further comprising one or more additives selected from the group consisting of bodying agents, fillers, perfumes, dyes, emulsifiers, vitamins, proteins, light protection agents, stabilizers, insect repellants, alcohol, water, salts, antimicrobials, proteolytics, keratolytics, antioxidants, preservatives, bactericides, antifoams, coloring pigments, thickeners, surface-active substances, emollients, moisturizers, humectants, fats, oils, waxes, alcohols, polyols, foam stabilizers, electrolytes, organic solvents, and silicone derivatives.
- 42. (New) The cosmetic or dermatological preparation as claimed in claim 1, wherein the preparation is selected from the group consisting of skin protection creams, cleansing milks, sunscreen lotions, nourishing creams, day creams, and night creams.
- 43. (New) The cosmetic or dermatological preparation as claimed in claim 1, further comprising at least one substance selected from the group consisting of UVA filters, UVB filters, and inorganic pigments.
- 44. (New) The cosmetic or dermatological preparation as claimed in claim 36, wherein the preparation is in a form selected from the group consisting of solutions, water-in-oil (W/O) emulsions, oil-in-water (O/W) emulsions, water-in-oil-in-water (W/O/W) emulsions, oil-in-water-in-oil (O/W/O) emulsions, hydrodispersions, lipodispersions, gels, solid sticks, and aerosols.
- 45. (New) The cosmetic or dermatological preparation as claimed in claim 36, wherein the preparation is in the form of an emulsion selected from the group consisting of creams, lotions, and cosmetic milks.
- 46. (New) The cosmetic or dermatological preparation as claimed in claim 36, further comprising one or more additives selected from the group consisting of bodying agents,

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fillers, perfumes, dyes, emulsifiers, vitamins, proteins, light protection agents, stabilizers, insect repellants, alcohol, water, salts, antimicrobials, proteolytics, keratolytics, antioxidants, preservatives, bactericides, antifoams, coloring pigments, thickeners, surface-active substances, emollients, moisturizers, humectants, fats, oils, waxes, alcohols, polyols, foam stabilizers, electrolytes, organic solvents, and silicone derivatives.

- 47. (New) The cosmetic or dermatological preparation as claimed in claim 36, wherein the preparation is selected from the group consisting of skin protection creams, cleansing milks, sunscreen lotions, nourishing creams, day creams, and night creams.
- 48. (New) The cosmetic or dermatological preparation as claimed in claim 36, further comprising at least one substance selected from the group consisting of UVA filters, UVB filters, and inorganic pigments.